

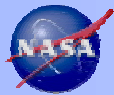


## Research on the International Space Station

Prof. Dava Newman for  
16.423J/HST515J  
Many thanks to:  
Dr. Arnauld E. Nicogossian, MD  
Associate Administrator  
NASA Office of Life & Microgravity  
Sciences & Applications



September 2000



## Why Space Station?

Station is an international cooperative research platform

### To Provide...

- .....an advanced testbed for technology & human exploration
- .....a state-of-the-art research facility on which to study gravity's effects on physical, chemical, & biological systems
- .....a commercial platform for space research & development

### To Learn...

- .....how to live, explore, and work productively in space
- .....how to use the attributes of space to enhance products & processes for Earth





# Space Station & Exploration

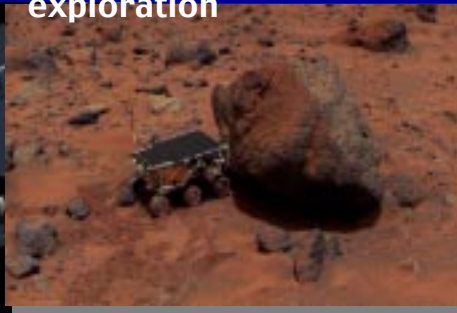
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Station is a testbed for solar system exploration



The Mars Transhab



The Martian Surface



Sojourner Rover  
Exploration Technology



# The First Steps

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The first Station element launched on 20 November 1998



Yuri Pavlovich Gidzenko, Soyuz Commander



William (Bill) Shepherd, Commander



Sergei K. Krikalev, Flight Engineer

First Station ingress, 10 Dec. 1998



Yuri Usachev, Expedition Commander



Susan J. Helms



James S. Voss

First Crew 01/00

Second Crew 4/00



# What is Space Station?

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A means to link research communities in space & on Earth

## Major Research Capability

- Biomedical Research & Countermeasures Development
- Gravitational Biology & Ecology (under variable gravity)
- Materials Science
- Biotechnology
- Fluids & Combustion
- Human-machine Interfaces and Advanced Life Support
- Low Temperature  $\mu$ g Physics
- Earth Observation & Space Science
- Multipurpose EXPRESS Racks & Pallets

U.S. Lab 03/00

- At least 4 International Laboratories
- External Attached Payload Sites
- Multipurpose EXPRESS Racks & Pallets

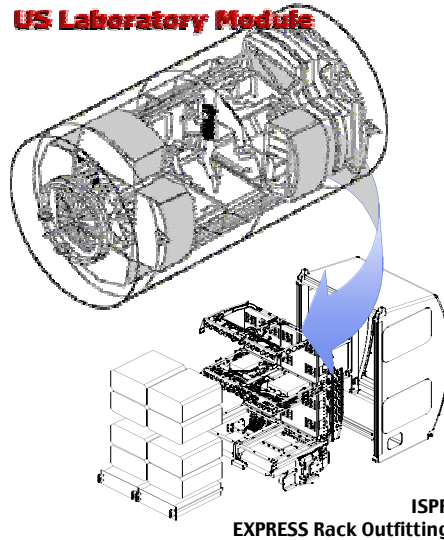


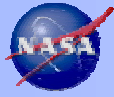
# What is Space Station? Resources

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- Power
- Thermal Control
- Data Handling & Communications (Telescience)
  - On Board
  - From the Ground
- Microgravity  $10^{-6}$
- Gaseous  $N_2$ ,  $O_2$ ,  $CO_2$ , Ar, He
- Vacuum Exposure & Vent
- Human Intervention
- Observational Windows

## US Laboratory Module





# Gravitational Biology

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## What is the role of gravity in the evolution, development, structure, and function of life, and as a result, life's interactions

- Through what mechanisms do plants & animals sense and respond to gravity, and what is the gravitational threshold for this perception to occur?\*
- What role does gravity play in the development of gravity-sensing vestibular systems in animals?\*
- Are there developmental processes in plants and animals that depend upon gravitational stimuli?\*



\*Questions derived from Space Studies Board, National Research Council, *A Strategy for Research in Space Biology and Medicine in the New Century*, 1998

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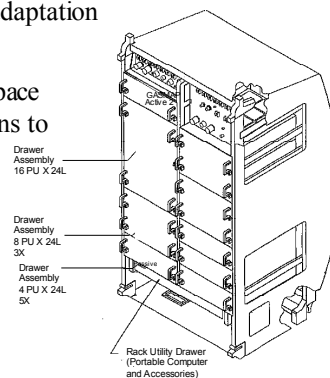
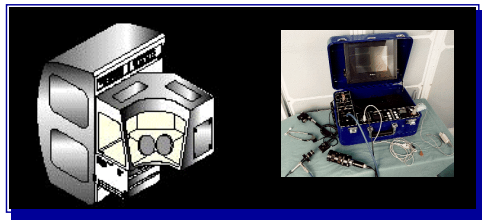


# Biomedical Res. & Adv. Human Support Tech.

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## What is required to assure the health, safety and productivity for humans living & working in space?

- How do humans adapt to space flight conditions, and how can we best facilitate that adaptation & readaptation to a gravity environment?
- What are the hazards to humans posed by the space environment, and what are the optimum solutions to minimize these hazards?



Human Research Facility Rack

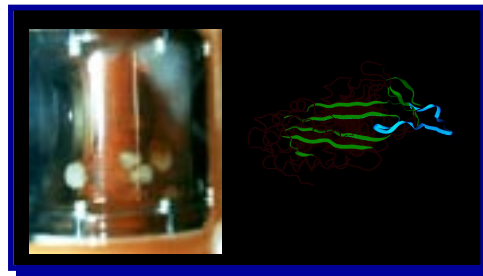


## Biotechnology

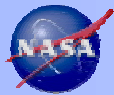
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**What are the controlling mechanisms in cellular aggregation and differentiation which would allow *in vitro* growth of cells, organisms, organs, and other biologically interesting structures?**

- How does gravity affect protein crystallization & growth, and what factors are responsible for increasing the structural resolution of certain protein crystals grown in  $\mu\text{g}$ ?\*
- Can  $\mu\text{g}$  cell culturing technology improve the limits of ground-based tissue engineering?



\*Questions derived from Space Studies Board, National Research Council, *Microgravity Research Opportunities for the 1990s*, 1995



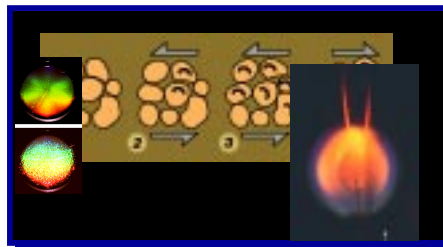
## Fluid Physics & Combustion Science

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**What is the most effective energy conversion process involving combustion, and how can we achieve that?**

**What are the fundamental forces affecting fluid behavior?**

- How do dominant forces in microgravity, such as surface tension gradient-driven flows, affect fluid behavior, and how do magnetic & electrical forces affect fluid transport in variable gravity environments?\*
- How do flames behave in variable gravity environments, and how is this dependent upon atmospheric & fuel composition?\*
- What are the forces governing soot formation in combustion processes?



\*Questions derived from Space Studies Board, National Research Council, *Microgravity Research Opportunities for the 1990s*, 1995



## Materials Research & Fundamental Physics

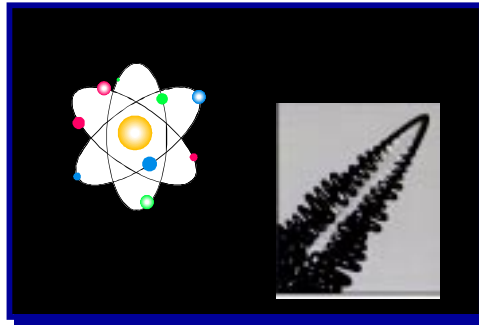
HLRS  
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**What is the optimum relationship between the process used to form a material and its resultant properties, and how can we achieve this in space and on the ground?**

**How can the space environment help us obtain fundamental physical measurements of the highest accuracy?**

- How do various transport phenomena affect the formation and quality of selected materials?\*
- How can containerless processing best enhance desirable qualities in selected materials? \*

\*Questions derived from Space Studies Board, National Research Council, *Microgravity Research Opportunities for the 1990s*, 1995



## Engineering Research & Technology Development

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**What technologies are best suited for long-duration missions of human space exploration?**

- How do large structures behave in space?\*
- How does the space environment affect the properties and performance of selected materials?\*
- What are the optimum technologies in solar dynamic power generation in terms of efficiency, mass, and size?\*
- How do we maximize the reliability and usefulness of deployable structures for space exploration & development?

\*Questions derived from Aeronautics & Space Engineering Board, National Research Council, *Engineering Research & Technology Development on the Space Station*, 1996







# Biologically-based Technologies for Exploration

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## Smart Materials & Structures

- Anticipatory
- Collaborative
- Curious
- Self-modeling
- Adaptive
- Self-repairing
- Portable
- Sensor-fusion & sensory-guided motor control



AERCam

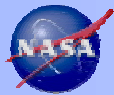
## Human-centered Systems

- Cognitive task analysis research
- Innovative human-machine interfaces
- Portable digital assistants & wearable computing research



Electronic Nose Component

\*Areas of emphasis derived from Space Studies Board, National Research Council, *Report of the Workshop on Biologically-based Technologies for Space Exploration*, 1998



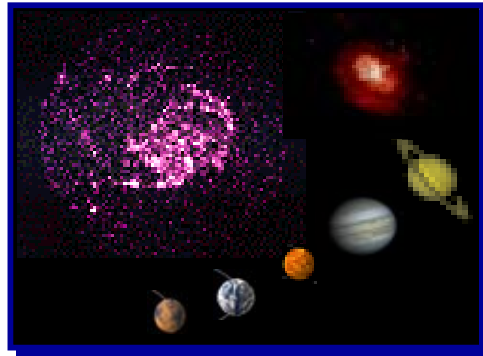
# Space Science

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## How did the Universe, galaxies, stars, and planets form & evolve?\*

- What is the morphology of the local space physics & Earth magnetospheric environments?
- What are the sources of cosmic-ray particles, and how are they related to the structure and evolution of the universe?
- What are the source of interplanetary cosmic-dust particles, and what is their linkage to the evolution of the solar system?

\*1998 NASA Strategic Plan





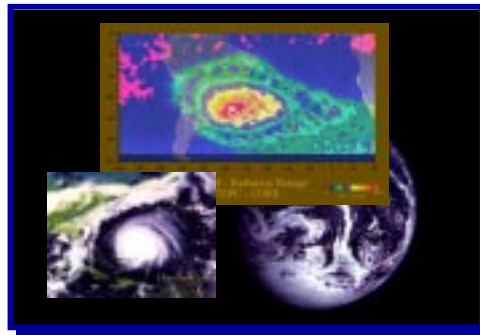
## Earth Science

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### How does the Earth environment change over time, and what are the causes of these changes?\*

- What are the nature and extent of land-cover and land-use changes over time?
- How can we better predict natural disasters?
- How does the Earth respond to variations in total solar irradiance?
- How and why are Earth atmospheric constituents changing, and what are the long-term impacts of these changes?

\*1998 NASA Strategic Plan

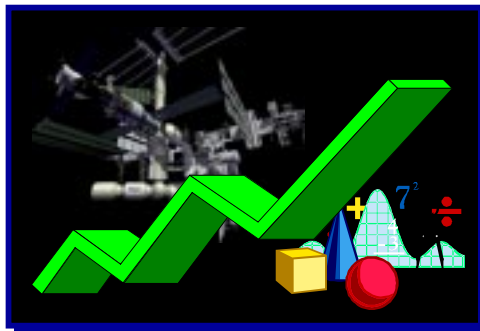


## Commercial Research

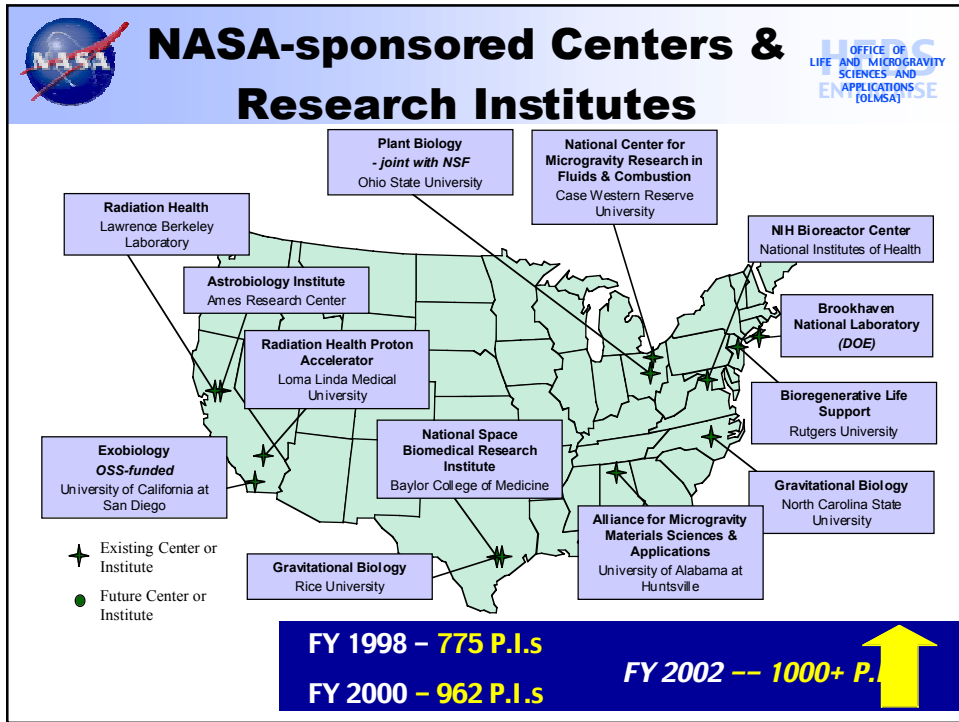
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### How can we best use the results of space research to improve products and processes on Earth?

- Can microgravity research facilitate the reduction of defects in polymer materials?
- Can microgravity research help us to improve the efficiency of selected agricultural techniques to enhance Earth-based food production?
- How can the Station best facilitate commercial space development?







**Station Telescience**

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P.I.'s will be able to interact with their payloads aboard Station via *telescience* operations

“P.I. in a Box”


**Telescience Support Centers (TSC)**

- Geographically dispersed
  - Designated NASA facilities
  - International partner mission control centers
  - Remote locations such as a PI or commercial laboratory
- Download data directly to investigators
- Allow investigators to communicate with their


**Telescience Resource Kit (TReK)**

- PC-based telemetry & command system
- Networks to TSC or NASA Payload Operations Integration Center
- Allows access to ISS payload and ground-based payload planning and info. mgt. systems

Telescience capabilities enhance the educational potential



## Research on the ISS Collaboration




STS-90 & STS-95 are Models of Cooperation

**STS-90 – Neurolab**


- International Payload
  - Participation by CSA, ESA, CNES, DARA, NASDA
- Interagency Collaboration
  - Cooperation with NIH, NSF, & ONR

**STS-95**


- International Crew
  - Chiaki Mukai (Japan)
  - Pedro Duque (Spain)
- Multinational payload (ESA, NASDA)
- Interagency cooperation
  - NIH/National Institute on Aging/Baltimore Longitudinal Study on Aging



International AOs and NRAs  
will broaden Station



## The Exploration Vision



Permanent Presence

Exploration

Discovery

Observation...

Our Solar System

Interstellar Space

The Milky Way

Inter-Galactic Space

Alpha Centauri  
4 1/2 light years

40 light years

100,000 light years

Oort Cloud

1000 Nearby Stars

Virtual Human Presence  
("Human" -on-a-Chip)

Human Presence (ISS)

Station research plays a critical role in an integrated space exploration & development strategy



# Getting on Board NASA Research Solicitations

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See these web sites for NASA Research  
Announcements and Announcements of



Commercial users should contact a Commercial  
Space Center:

<http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/olmsa/spd/index.htm>

<http://peer1.idi.usra.edu/>  
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**life/μg**

<http://www.earth.nasa.gov/nra/index.html>  
<http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/oss/research.htm>

 **sciences**

**sciences**

**space**